

The Mighty 721

Chapter 721: Friendly Exchange

The Sapphire Dragon originally lived within the primeval Wild Forest and had done so for nearly three hundred years until it met Anderson Sapphire, the ancestor of the current Grand Duke.

Anderson was a very charming knight. As a Marquis of the Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom, he owned vast lands, including the habitat of the Sapphire Dragon. In order to ride the dragon, Anderson continuously used various resources to please the Sapphire Dragon and ultimately hit its G-spot.

He gained the opportunity for a mind battle.

In the mind battle, he succeeded at once and gained the Sapphire Dragon's recognition, becoming a Dragon Knight.

When he applied to the Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom to establish a duchy within his territory, he was rejected by the royal family at the time and had to search for new territory. Thus, he chose an uninhabited wasteland claimed by the Eagle Kingdom for his nation building. He had thought the Eagle Kingdom wouldn't turn hostile over a piece of wasteland.

But a dragon slaying war really broke out.

With no other choice, Anderson fled on the Sapphire Dragon for thousands of miles, until at Blue Blood Mountain, he was caught up with and fought a deadly battle with a White Maw Iron Dragon, his blood spilling onto the earth and turning it into Blue Blood Mountain.

Afterward, the grievously injured Sapphire Dragon crossed the sea, established a country on an overseas archipelago, and pledged loyalty to the Steel Ridge Kingdom, becoming a vassal that paid tribute annually.

“To overcome the spirit of the Sapphire Dragon, one needs an immense force within the mind. This force, strong enough to move the Sapphire Dragon’s soul, will earn its recognition. Unfortunately, over the past hundred years, no one in the family has been able to stir the Sapphire Dragon’s soul, and neither can I.”

The Sapphire Duke said, “When the Marquis of Bull collaborated with the Goat Assembly in a dragon-slaying conspiracy, the soul of the Sapphire Dragon was wounded. Only then was I able to stir its soul and obtain its recognition... But this opportunistic approach didn’t earn me the Sapphire Dragon’s complete approval. I was more like entering into a dragon riding partnership with it.”

“Would you mind sharing the details of the agreement?”

“It’s quite simple, really. It knew its life hung by a thread, and I knew the Sapphire was in dire straits, so we were in agreement. When I lift the ‘Wailing Dragonbone Sword’ made from its forelimb, I can temporarily merge minds, becoming a true Dragon Knight. However, I’m still unable to ride it under normal circumstances.”

Liszt couldn’t help but marvel, “There’s such a manoeuvre?”

“If the Sapphire Dragon’s soul hadn’t been injured, there would be no chance for such opportunism. The heart of a dragon is more solid than any metal; unless recognized, there is absolutely no room for compromise,” the Duke said with a faint smile, but there seemed to be a hint of bitterness in that smile.

Liszt could somewhat sense that the Duke wasn’t revealing the full truth—the cost of riding the Sapphire Dragon was likely far more serious than the lightly touched upon description.

The permanent scarring on the Sapphire Dragon’s exterior was evidence of that.

However, he didn’t probe further. Since he decided not to overthrow the rule of the Sapphire Family but to search for land overseas to build his own nation, there was no need to worry about the Sapphire problem—if the Sapphire Dragon died or something else happened, there would be time to claim the land later.

“I’ve basically understood the situation with the mind battle. Now, I need the “Dragon Knight’s Dou Qi Secret Manual”.”

“I knew you would need it. Give me one night, and I will transcribe it for you.”

“Isn’t it recorded in books?”

“From the beginning, there were no books. The “Dragon Knight Dou Qi Manual” created by our ancestor has been continuously passed down through the minds of his heirs. I hope you will also adopt this method of transmission. As a new member of the Dragon Rearing Family, all information about dragons must be kept strictly confidential.”

“I understand.”

Of course, secrecy was essential.

If the secret was known to the whole world, wouldn’t just anyone have the opportunity to try dragon riding? The secrets of dragons were only passed down within the Dragon Rearing Family to maximize the preservation of their lofty status—just as the Nobles kept the Dou Qi Secret Techniques within their family, the Dragon Rearing Family circulated the secrets of dragons among themselves.

“By the way, I noticed the Sapphire Dragon seems unable to transform into a Magic Form and enter the body of the Dragon Knight?”

“I am also curious about your Fire Dragon, how it can fuse into your body. Truthfully, if I hadn’t seen it with my own eyes, I would find it hard to believe such a thing is possible... You should avoid exposing this method, as it is part of the secret knowledge of dragons.”

It really was a bit reckless—mainly because the situation during the dragon slaying battle was so critical that Liszt directly released Leo from the ship, revealing the secret of Leo’s ability to change form.

So it was impossible to keep it a secret afterward.

Fortunately, the exposure of this secret posed no significant connection to dragon riding.

The Grand Duke was unaware of the reasons why Leo could switch between magic power and his fleshly form, and Liszt did not bring it up again—it might have been a mutation during Leo’s incubation or a unique survival method of the Elemental Dragons.

Liszt then asked the Grand Duke many questions about Dragon Knights.

Ach also inquired about some magic issues.

Information was always the most sought-after content by “newcomers” like Liszt and Ach; it was a pity that the Grand Duke could provide Liszt with the “Dragon Knight’s Dou Qi Secret Manual” but could not offer Ach much assistance with magic questions—Archmages had become a thing of legends, with their heritage long gone.

No matter what.

This cordial and friendly exchange left Liszt very satisfied. As he was about to leave, he shook hands warmly with the Grand Duke, “Grand Duke, speaking with you has illuminated many principles for me. The price of knowledge is far richer than material wealth; I thank you for your generous gift, which I will benefit from for a lifetime.”

“Not at all. We are all Dragon Knights who benefit from mutual exchange; in the future, it will be up to us to maintain the order of the seas and prevent encroachment by the continental Kingdoms.”

“That is certain.” Liszt had no reason not to agree to a defensive and offensive alliance; after all, both he and Ach had not yet fully developed their strengths.

Now he had not only killed a Dragon Knight of the Eagle Kingdom but was also prepared to capture the Light Green Gemstone Dragon.

It was inevitable that he would incur a blood feud with the Royal Family of the Eagle Kingdom. If the Royals acted rashly and assembled the remaining five Dragon Knights for an attack, it would be a huge problem. It was just the right time to form an alliance with the Sapphire Duke, to secure a period for development and to weather the difficulties of the founding phase.

As he was about to leave the room, he seemed to remember something, turned around, and said, “Grand Duke, I will arrange for my father to discuss the matter of resource assistance with you as soon as possible.”

“Sounds good,” the Grand Duke replied with a slightly stiff smile.

“And the “Dragon Knight’s Dou Qi Secret Manual”, can I see it tomorrow morning?”

“That should be possible.”

“Thank you for your generosity, Grand Duke.” Only then did Liszt leave, contentedly pulling Ach along with him.

...

A nameless castle near Bull Hoof City had been arranged for the Tulip Family to rest.

The night had already grown deep.

Li Weiliam, beaming with joy, had returned to the castle. Meanwhile, Liszt, who had left the Bull Hoof Fortress early, was now drinking with Marquis Nuta, a Domain Knight who, at the moment, was silently downing his drink with his head bowed.

As Li Weiliam approached.

He abruptly looked up with bloodshot, red eyes, and gazed intently at Li Weiliam—this Sword Saint, whom he had defeated with a single move, now the father of a Dragon Knight!

For a long time.

He numbly turned back around to face Liszt, who was admiring the stars, and all his words turned into a deep sigh, “Your Highness, Liszt, please rest assured, I will hand over the Dou Qi Domain Manual and the Dou Qi Secret Technique. I have a Greater Elf as well; I will deliver it all to you.”

He knew which way the wind was blowing.

Liszt had become a Dragon Knight whom one must address using “Your Highness,” and there was nothing the Domain Knight could do other than agree to pay a ransom for his freedom.

Liszt was not particularly concerned about these trophies of war.

He simply said calmly, “Write a letter. Once the Greater Elf arrives, you can safely return to the Eagle Kingdom and continue being Marquis Nuta.”

Chapter 722: Improved Secret Manual

““Dou Qi Domain Manual” and “Spiral Rotation”, these are the secret manuals hastily written by Marquis Nuta, both exceptionally brief with just a few pages of content.”

Li Si Te first perused the “Dou Qi Domain Manual”, According to Marquis Nuta’s introduction, there is no unified Dou Qi Domain Manual on the market, only the various families’ internal secrets passed down orally, and discovered bit by bit through exploration and supplementation. His manual was the complete version after continuous discovery and supplementation.

According to the cultivation method in the manual, the Dou Qi Domain also somewhat resembles the principle of Dragon Knight Resonance, utilizing the resonance and entanglement between Dou Qi, which then, with a bit of guidance, can be condensed into a mottled but powerful energy, at one’s command.

It’s a bit like a choir.

One person leads the singing, and the others follow.

Of course, the details are more complex, especially when it comes to managing the different Dou Qi of a Knight Order, which requires very intricate operations. Additionally, the Domain Knight needs to be familiar with every Knight’s Dou Qi in the Knight Order,

so they can conveniently guide the resonation of the Dou Qi in the Order, entering the Dou Qi Domain.

This “Dou Qi Domain Manual”, for Li Si Te, has no necessity to practice.”

It neither increases strength, for Dragon Dou Qi’s power far exceeds that of the Dou Qi Domain; nor does it provide any reference, for it’s just a replica, reduced, weakened, and even incomplete version of Dragon Knight Resonance. Compared to the profound integration of mind and body in Dragon Knight Resonance, controlling the Dou Qi Domain is like playing house.

“Although it does not supplement my strength, nor does it provide more insights, nevertheless, the Dou Qi Domain is a very precious cultivation manual for ordinary Knights... Dimaria did not create false information, the cultivation content in this manual is correct.”

With his current insight, he can deduce whether a manual is practicable simply with a bit of reasoning.

He then opened “Spiral Rotation”, a Dou Qi Secret Technique that lies between auxiliary and combat nature, allowing the internal Dou Qi to spiral in a special manner.

It not only condenses the strength of Dou Qi but also accelerates the release speed and increases the penetrative power of Dou Qi.

“No wonder he could defeat the Marquis in one strike, with the aid of “Spiral Rotation” combined with the power of the Dou Qi Domain, the force of Dimaria’s casual blow should not be underestimated. If he hadn’t met me, with his strength, he might have really achieved something considerable, but meeting me was his fated calamity.”

...

He put down the two manuals and stored them in a designated book area within his Space Ring.

By now, he had acquired a complete set of Dou Qi cultivation manuals, from the “Basic Dou Qi” practiced by the Apprentice Knight, to the “Flaming Wave”, “Thousand Waves”,

“Fire Dragon Drill” that the Earth Knight practices... And also the compulsory “Multi-Arrow”, and “Guiding Arrow” for the Divine Archer, and so on.

Then there are the Advanced Dou Qi Manuals practiced by the Sky Knights, such as “Great Wave Crushing the Tide”, “Meteor Fall Shockwave”, “Thousand Thunderstrike Sky Flash”, “Rising Sun Blaze”. As well as the Advanced Dou Qi Manuals practiced by Marquis Nuta, Clear Water Sword Saint Yevich, and Garcia, and Fox, which he acquired in passing.

The variety is rich, including the five categories of water, fire, earth, wind, and lightning.

Now he’s completed the collection with the “Dou Qi Domain Manual”.

A Knight’s full set of cultivation manuals from start to finish are all accounted for, and moreover, once daylight comes, the Grand Duke will trade the “Dragon Knight’s Dou Qi Manual” with him.

By then, the entire Knight cultivation system will be completely within his grasp.

As for Dou Qi Secret Techniques, he currently has only three, “The Eye of Magic”, “Breath Decay”, and “Spiral Rotation”. In the future, Li Si Te will collect more, enriching his own collection and also using the Dou Qi Secret Techniques to broaden his horizons. Perhaps new Dou Qi Secret Techniques could be created by introducing innovation based on the old.

“If the natives of this world could create various Dou Qi Manuals and Secret Techniques, why can’t I? After all, I possess the rich knowledge of another world!”

There are many fundamental differences between the two worlds before and after the traversal, but most principles can be used as references for each other.

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His thinking was far broader than that of the natives, but he had only crossed over for a short time, not exceeding three years. All his time had basically been spent on territory construction and knight training, leaving no time for extensive creative work—or rather, his focus on creation had always been leaning in the wrong direction.

As a Dragon Knight, he had even engaged in research on magic theory and fabrication of world history, which could be considered a representative of not sticking to one's proper occupation.

He took out paper and a pen.

The white paper could already be released. He had shown it to the Grand Duke before, and, once the subsequent national support began, his official business cooperation with the Sapphire would gradually unfold.

Now the white paper lay flat on the table, and as Liszt dipped the goose feather pen into the ink, he contemplated improving the "Rising Sun Blaze".

The day's dragon-slaying battle had revealed many shortcomings in the "Rising Sun Blaze"—after all, it was only an Advanced Dou Qi manual, and many of its techniques were no longer suitable for a Dragon Knight.

"How should I modify it?"

He had plenty of ideas swirling in his mind but couldn't quite articulate them at the moment. And he didn't know whether it was because the Crystal Lamp was a bit dim tonight, or if the day's battle had taken too much out of him, but he gradually felt sleepiness engulfing his brain, urging him to bathe and go to bed.

"Forget it, it's not too late to improve the manual tomorrow."

...

He lay down.

Liszt called forth the Smoke Mission.

"Mission: After winning the battle against the dragon, your name will spread across every corner of the sea, making it easy to establish a provisional new country. However,

considering the long-term development of the nation, resources are of the utmost importance. Perhaps the Light Green Gemstone Dragon can provide for you, and it's hiding on one of your territorial islands. Reward: One Light Green Gemstone Dragon.”

Being still in an uncompleted state indicated that the Light Green Gemstone Dragon hadn't escaped, so he could fall asleep with peace of mind.

However, although he indeed could sleep soundly until dawn, for many others, this night was an utterly sleepless one.

The Sapphire Duke set down his goose feather pen and flicked through the white paper notebook in his hand, curious about this thin yet tough paper that did not blot the ink.

“If the raw materials are not expensive and the production process is not complicated, I fear this ‘white paper’ will soon replace vellum... This young Dragon Knight named Liszt who suddenly appeared is truly mysterious... A young Fire Dragon, a strange Archmage, and now glass and white paper...”

The Duke rubbed his temples.

Traces of gray were already showing at his temples. He was over fifty years old, which, according to a knight's physique, should be the last phase of his golden years, with several years of peak physical condition left. However, he already felt his body aging rapidly, like a leaky ship.

Each sea voyage expanded the area of the leak until one day, the ship would completely sink into the sea.

“The Sapphire Dragon is grievously wounded and hard to heal; I'm also close to not holding on... I hope Anthony can quickly take up the responsibility and maintain the continued operation of Sapphire.”

He closed the notebook.

The Duke looked out the window at the stars that had already scattered away for the most part, his face showing neither joy nor sorrow, but his eyes filled with a deep sense of loss: “Why wasn't the Fire Dragon discovered by me!”

Chapter 723: Surpassing the Dragon Knight

Once master of the seas, the Sapphire Duke boiled with unvented resentment. He had thought that the success of his dragon riding, bought with a steep price, would shield Sapphire through its crises.

The emergence of the two Dragon Knights from the Eagle Kingdom made him realize the crisis of Sapphire was far more terrifying than imagined.

Although ultimately, with the appearance of Liszt and Acherloides, he succeeded in resolving this wave of calamity, the collaboration of a Dragon Knight and an Archmage meant that the oceans were no longer under Sapphire's control—or perhaps it could be said that from the time the Eagle Kingdom was able to manufacture schooners, the ocean had ceased to be Sapphire's exclusive dominion.

“Damn that Andy, an ungrateful wretch raised in vain!”

“If not for the Bull Family's betrayal, how could the Eagle Kingdom have developed its shipbuilding industry and even dared to initiate the Dragon Slaying War!” The Grand Duke's eyes twinkled with hatred. “I won't let you die easily, not just you, but also your grandson and your people, I will eventually send them to follow you!”

He silently seethed for a moment.

Only then did the Grand Duke regain his composure as dawn began to break quietly, and the First Prince had already led the fleet back to the Port of Bull Hoof City, fruitful from a night of pursuit.

As the sun rose from the horizon, the port once again buzzed with activity.

The Knights boasted incessantly about their own battle merits, how many fleeing ships they had crushed, how many Knights they had captured who had jumped into the water. Of course, they couldn't omit discussions about the Dragon Knights and Archmages born from the Tulip Family, the discussions about Carl's death, and Liszt's rise, the change of the ocean's overlord.

However, as the focus of everyone's discussions, Liszt quietly remained in the study, flipping through the "Dragon Knight's Dou Qi Secret Manual" delivered by the Grand Duke.

A notebook of blank pages, each page able to hold roughly two hundred words, the manual consisted of ten pages, amounting to no more than two thousand words. The content recorded was not voluminous, but every sentence gave Liszt an epiphany, greatly expanding his thinking.

"So that's how it is, the stages of a Dragon Knight are no longer merely about cultivating Dou Qi or Combat Skills, but about the fusion between man and dragon, including the minds, Magic Power, and bodies. Seeking a perfect dynamic equilibrium between Knight and Dragon, compensating for each other's flaws to achieve completion," he realized.

In this process of complementary completion, Mind Branding was simply a matter of course.

Because the manual was recorded by Anderson Sapphire, it was divided according to his cultivation experiences. He categorized Dragon Knights into four stages.

The first stage, the Examining phase—before riding a dragon, Knights and Dragons test and adapt to each other, Advanced Dou Qi gradually transforming into Dragon Dou Qi. However, at this stage, one is not yet a Dragon Knight. Many potential Dragon Knights fall at this stage, afterwards their Dou Qi declines, plummeting back to Complete Advanced Level Dou Qi.

The second stage, the Mind phase—when a Knight passes the Dragon's test and is recognized, he can engage in the Mind Battle. If one fails the Mind Battle, dragon riding fails. If repeated attempts also fail, it results in losing the Dragon's recognition, and one falls back to Complete Advanced Level Dou Qi.

If one succeeds in the Mind Battle, it means successful dragon riding and becoming a true Dragon Knight. At this stage, Dragon Dou Qi gradually integrates with the Dragon's Magic Power, and the minds continue to merge, with battle methods converging as well.

The third stage, the Completion phase—when all merges are successful, the Dragon Knight finally brands his own mark in the mind of the dragon, achieving perfect harmony

between man and Dragon. When riding a dragon at this time, neither Dragon nor man distinguishes their thoughts, they become one.

Anderson Sapphire was a Completion-term stage Dragon Knight.

Ten years after the founding Dragon Slaying War, he and the Sapphire Dragon stepped into the Completion stage together.

Furthermore, there is a fourth stage, the Transcendence phase—this is a stage conjectured by Anderson, which he himself never entered, so he also did not know what wonders this stage held.

Completion-term Dragon Knights are the mainstream of Dragon Knights, basically whether it's the Eagle Kingdom, the Steel Ridge Kingdom, or the Blast Furnace Fortress Kingdom, Dragon Knights are considered at their peak in this stage. Even as Dragon Knights grow old and die, they can't surpass the Completion term to reach the Transcendence phase.

But Anderson believed that the Transcendence phase definitely existed, as he had recorded in the manual: "The Completion phase is not the endpoint; I deeply feel the constraints of that bottleneck, there must be a way to break through, for man and Dragon to transcend together, transcend each other, transcend the present, transcend everything we know!"

"Perhaps, in the three great empires, there are Dragon Knights in the Transcendence phase!"

"Alas, I have no chance to witness it!"

He finished flipping through the manual.

Liszt handed the "Dragon Knight Dou Qi Manual" to Ach standing beside him, hoping Ach could see something that could provide him with some insights.

He leaned back in his chair, deep in thought.

“According to the cultivation system organized by Anderson, I should now be a Mind-term Dragon Knight,” he mused, “As for Alonso, Carlo, and the Grand Duke, they should be Completion-term Dragon Knights... Of course, their completion term was forcibly elevated by the dragons after bonding with their dragon souls, since all these dragons had previously bonded with Completion-term Dragon Knights.”

When a dragon and a Dragon Knight's souls unite, their thoughts synchronize. Naturally, the dragon imparts its memory of being a Dragon Knight to the Dragon Knight.

There's no need for the Dragon Knight to grope around; as long as they slowly adapt, they will inevitably reach the completion stage.

“So, to be precise, the Dragon Knight Dou Qi Manual appears more like the First Dragon Knight's riding experiences, a record of insights akin to an autobiography. The true Dragon Knight Dou Qi Manual is actually hidden within the dragon's memories... The recorded detailed combat skills must have been added by the Grand Duke.”

He distinctly felt that in the second half of Anderson's manual, the various applications of Dragon Dou Qi seemed disjoint from the earlier part of the record.

It's likely that the Grand Duke, fearing Liszt would not believe that the inherited Dragon Knight Dou Qi Manual was merely a personal memoir, wrote the 'true' Dragon Knight Dou Qi Manual, which he derived from the Sapphire Dragon's thoughts, in the second half of the memoir and handed it over to Liszt.

“Fortunately, the Grand Duke was wise enough to include the Dragon Knight's Dou Qi movements; otherwise, I might have misunderstood. Now, with the Sapphire Dragon Knight's Dragon Combat Skills as a reference, I can easily develop combat skills unique to the Fire Dragon Knight... Each Dragon Knight's combat skills are different and must be crafted individually.”

Because dragons are different, their Dragon Combat Skills naturally vary, unless it's the inheritance of the same dragon.

“However, through this manual, I can see that the Fire Dragon, as an Elemental Dragon, is obviously quite different from the Gemstone Dragon and Metal Dragon, especially in its major feature of elementalization!”

Gemstone Dragons and Metal Dragons, being resource-oriented dragons, don't shift between magical form and flesh and blood.

So, only Liszt can use the technique of Dragon Magic Refining Qi.

Moreover, since Leo is so powerful even in his youth, he deeply feels that Gemstone Dragons and Metal Dragons are just ordinary resource units, while Elemental Dragons are the true combat units. As a Fire Dragon Knight, an Elemental Dragon, once he enters the completion term, he will undoubtedly dominate over the other Dragon Knights.

Soon after.

He suddenly had some inspiration: "It seems that the cultivation of a Dragon Knight is not much different from that of a Sky Knight or an Earth Knight."

Earth Knights are divided into regular and elite.

The regular phase is Intermediate Dou Qi, and the elite is the Complete Intermediate Dou Qi.

Sky Knights are divided into regular, Sword Saints, and completion, but the essence of their Dou Qi remains the standard Advanced Dou Qi and the Complete Advanced Dou Qi.

A Domain Knight is just a special state of Complete Advanced Dou Qi.

Dragon Knights are similar; starting with dragon riding success after a Mind Battle, the Mind-term equates to the standard Dragon Dou Qi, and the Completion-term is the Complete Dragon Dou Qi.

"So, the surpassing term is more like exceeding the stage of Dragon Knight? Elite Earth Knights can break through bottlenecks with drugs, Completion-term Sky Knights can break through bottlenecks by dragon riding, but what can Dragon Knights use to surpass the bottleneck of Complete Dragon Dou Qi?"

No one could give him an answer.

Neither did he dwell on it; first, he would diligently practice until reaching the completion stage.

Standing up and stretching, he turned to Ach and asked, “How are you feeling after resting for a night? If you’re recovered, come with me to Mind Island. I have a strong feeling that the severely wounded Light Green Gemstone Dragon is hiding there to recuperate.”

Ach didn’t ask Liszt how he came to such a feeling.

He just nodded seriously, “Ach is fully recovered and ready to depart at any time.”

“Then let’s go. The port is too bustling for my taste. I don’t like this feeling of being constantly flattered.” He had enjoyed it once yesterday, and to enjoy it again would be sickening.

Chapter 724: Sub-dragon Turtle Shell

There was no dragon riding.

Liszt directly boarded Ach’s shell and zoomed toward Mind Island. A night’s rest had revived both him and Ach, and Leo had adjusted his state as well.

To avoid the perils of the long night, he decided to capture the Light Green Gemstone Dragon directly – although it might not be rideable due to the Mind Branding from the First Dragon Knight, Liszt was still unwilling to let it heal or escape. If worst came to worst, he would simply slaughter it for its meat.

He had never heard of anyone eating dragon meat and wondered if it was even edible.

Whether the dragon meat would turn into a ball of flames, a gemstone, or something else upon being cut off was hard to determine. However, Dragon Bone was a different matter; it would remain intact, or else there wouldn’t be weapons like Dragon Bone Weapon and Dragon Tooth Soldier in the world.

Even a Fire Dragon capable of Elementalization would leave its bones behind after death.

Regardless, just the blood that flowed out would probably be enough to turn the entire Mind Island into a Light Green Gemstone Mine. Light Green Gemstone is a gem that can amplify the speed of Dou Qi and Magic Power flow and is very valuable—in fact, the gems from every type of Gemstone Dragon are high in value.

The price of Magic Items is never low.

They chatted as they sailed.

Liszt was curious about the dragon blood collected by Ach, “Ach, have you researched what changes the dragon blood will undergo?”

“I’ve only used a little bit of the blood for research, and so far the dragon blood still exists in its liquid form, without any change. The conditions here are not sufficient for a good experiment, and Ach is worried that the data recorded here won’t be comprehensive enough, so I plan to conduct detailed experiments after returning.”

With a Space Ring, Ach stored all the collected dragon blood in the ring to keep the blood fresh.

The Light Green Gemstone Dragon, Sapphire Dragon, and Bronze Dragon had shed pools of blood. Although a significant portion had been diluted by the ocean, most of the fresh blood had been promptly extracted by Ach using his water-controlling ability. It filled up one-seventh of his Space Ring’s space.

“It’s a pity that Leo’s blood turns into flames once it leaves his body, or else I could provide you with abundant experimental materials,” Liszt said.

An angry roar suddenly rang out in his mind: “Oh ho!”

Liszt was unconcerned. When the time of completion came, his Mind Branding would remain in Leo’s heart, indelible—the moment he mounted the dragon, it was destined that Leo could never escape the shackles of fate, bound to be ridden by Liszt to death.

“By the way, Ach, what do you think we should do with the grievously wounded Light Green Gemstone Dragon if we capture it later?”

“According to the ‘Dragon Knight Dou Qi Manual,’ the Light Green Gemstone Dragon bears the Mind Branding of an Eagle Kingdom Dragon Knight, so it might be difficult to subdue it directly,” Ach pondered with a frown before responding, “If we can find a way to imprison it, perhaps brother could use it as a resource for founding a kingdom in the future.”

“What if we can’t find a way to imprison it?”

“Well, then just slaughter it,” Ach said matter-of-factly.

Liszt was speechless: “Let me think about it some more, you go ahead with your things.”

He took out all the items from Carlo Violet’s possession, searching carefully for any clues. Carlo had few personal items, apart from Thunder, there was also a set of silver armor. The armor was crafted from a blend of Mithril and Mountain Copper, with numerous gems and Magical Beast Materials embedded in the details.

He counted a total of nine gems: five Light Green Gems, one Sapphire, one Ruby, one Topaz, and one Purple Sapphire.

The nature of Sapphire is strength, Ruby is Dou Qi amplification, Topaz is resilience, and Purple Sapphire is recovery speed.

All nine gems were embedded on the inner side of the armor’s waist.

“It’s a pity the armor is a bit small, I’ll need to modify it before I can wear it.” Liszt felt a bit regretful; silver armor along with the silver Wrath of Thunder would certainly be striking.

Unfortunately, he had grown to be one meter ninety tall, while Carlo at most was one meter seventy-two. A whole head shorter, the armor couldn’t be worn without alterations.

“Let’s name this set of armor Thunder Roar, for no other reason than to match with the Wrath of Thunder.”

Apart from the Wrath of Thunder and Thunder Roar, Carlo also had a beautifully made pendant that looked like a piece of turtle shell. It was only the size of a palm, shimmering with a purple luster, its patterns very much alive, unlike something man-made.

At first glance, the feeling it gave Liszt made him think of a similar experience he had when he saw the Phoenix Feather.

With the Eye of Magic, he could see that within the turtle shell was a dense, almost tangible Thunder Attribute Magic Power, indeed comparable to the Fire Attribute Mana of the Phoenix Feather.

“So could it be made from a part of a Sub-dragon? Since it’s shaped like a turtle shell, could it be the shell of a Sub-dragon Turtle? A Sub-dragon Turtle the size of a palm?” Liszt was puzzled, as even if Sub-dragons were not as big as dragons, they certainly wouldn’t be as small as a pet.

“Unless it’s a newly hatched baby turtle.”

He had seen documentaries about leatherback turtles on Earth; the largest sea turtle in the world could grow to one meter fifty, but its hatchlings were only a few centimeters long.

So for now, he considered this purple, gem-like turtle shell as the shell of a Thunder Attribute Sub-dragon Turtle hatchling, with a value equivalent to that of the Phoenix Feather. However, its value was mainly for Thunder Attribute Knights, with no effect on Fire Attribute Knights.

“Speaking of Thunder Attribute Knights, it seems my little follower Emily would be very suitable for this turtle shell... Should I give it to her to aid in her cultivation?” Liszt’s lips curved into a smile, “That green and inexperienced girl from back then has grown up quite well.”

He quickly suppressed his impulsive thoughts and remembered he still had a lead on the Sub-dragon Phoenix—living in Flame Mountain within the Eagle Kingdom, it was very likely that a Sub-dragon Phoenix resided there.

I need to find time to search for it; hints from the Smoke Mission should not be unfounded.

There really is a Sub-dragon Phoenix living in Flame Mountain!

...

Unknowingly, he was almost at Mind Island.

At this time, through Leo, Liszt successfully sensed the presence of a dragon in the distance—the aura of a dragon spreads far, unnoticed by most creatures, but dragons can easily sense each other, unless they hide inside a human body like Leo.

The range of the sensing reached several kilometers.

So in the blink of an eye, Liszt saw the distant Mind Island, and a huge light green dragon lying on it.

Mind Island wasn't very large to begin with, and the Light Green Gemstone Dragon occupied almost a third of its area.

"Its posture doesn't look like it's crawling in sleep, but rather that it has fainted?" Seeing this, Liszt couldn't help but smile, signalling Ach to stop the shell, then calling for Leo.

Leo burst out of his chest.

"Oh-ho!"

Instantly transforming into a majestic Fire Dragon, Liszt mounted it and began scouting from high above the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, cautious of any sudden aggression.

However, seeing through the Dragon Eye Trajectory, his scalp tingled—countless colorful threads of magic power, like tree roots, were penetrating the Light Green Gemstone

Dragon's body, seemingly stealing its magic power. The once brilliant Light Green Magic Radiance had now dimmed to the point it looked ready to extinguish.

The once robust Light Green Gemstone Dragon had become skin and bones.

Liszt couldn't help exclaiming, "What's going on here!"

Chapter 725: Choice

The Light Green Gemstone Dragon lay dying, Liszt quickly discovered that those colorful roots were emanating from a small shrub.

The shrub had grown out of a small pit located right beside the head of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon.

"If I remember correctly, I left this small pit. There was once a Mind Fruit Tree growing here, and to prevent the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit from losing its magic power, I transplanted the whole withered Mind Fruit Tree away. I didn't expect another small tree to grow in the pit, and it's absorbing the magic power of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon."

After confirming that there was no danger coming from either the Light Green Gemstone Dragon or the small shrub,

Liszt then leaped off the back of Leo and jumped onto the body of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon. This dragon was a skeleton of skin and bones and not yet dead, but its breath was severely weakened, and death was not far away. There was no blood flowing from its wounds, nor were they healing, just streaks of split white flesh.

That was what muscles looked like after all the blood had been drained.

"No wonder the Smoke Mission indicated that I could obtain a dragon, this Light Green Gemstone Dragon is practically on its deathbed, and there's no difficulty in obtaining it,"

Liszt muttered to himself.

He knew that securing a dragon wouldn't be that easy; at least a series of Smoke Missions would need to be issued, gently tugging at the Threads of Destiny of a dragon, before it would completely fall into his hands—Leo came to him in this way, and the Formless Dragon also completed several looped missions.

He stepped down from the body of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon and slowly approached the small shrub. After making sure it truly was not dangerous, he abruptly gestured for Ach to come over.

As for Leo,

it seemed rather irate after seeing the dire state of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon and was very wary of the shrub in the pit on Mind Island.

But Liszt didn't have time to console it at the moment.

He squatted by the pit, carefully observing the small shrub within, and noticed that the whole tree was suffused with colorful magic power—magic power he had only seen once before.

“The Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit is charged with this color of magic power!”

“So could this be a new Mind Fruit Tree?”

“The location of growth is the same, the color of magic power is the same, and this tree is also absorbing the dragon's magic power to grow—it's obviously gearing up to cultivate the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit!”

With this realization, he noticed something different.

On the branches of the small shrub, he found between four forks of the branches some buds, tiny and unopened, but seemingly expanding very slowly.

Comparing it to the Mind Fruit Tree's withered wood within his Space Ring, he observed that both trees were very similar in shape, the twist of the branches and the structure were identical. The only difference was that the withered tree had already shed its bark and couldn't return to its true posture during growth.

Ach had already leaped off the Water Tornado and joined the research contingent.

Liszt softly called upon the Smoke Mission, "Complete the mission, and be rewarded with a Light Green Gemstone Dragon." As expected, the mission was accomplished.

Immediately afterward, a new mission was presented.

"Mission: You have now gained temporary ownership of a Light Green Gemstone Dragon. However, its physical condition is poor, and life hangs by a thread. You possess the power to choose its fate: let the Light Green Gemstone Dragon be consumed by the Mind Fruit Tree to cultivate new Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, or remove the Mind Fruit Tree and thus save the Light Green Gemstone Dragon. Reward: a Light Green Gemstone Mine."

"Can't I choose both?"

Liszt inwardly lamented. He wanted both the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit and the Light Green Gemstone Dragon! The Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit was the assurance for future Dragon Riding, almost ensuring victory in every Mind Battle; whereas the Light Green Gemstone Dragon could be considered an immediate combat force, a resource production unit that could be promptly put to use. Flesh on the palm or back of the hand, he was unwilling to let go of either.

"Frustrating!"

"Why, after you've promised me a dragon as a reward, would you choose to take it away?"

He turned around, entangled in his thoughts, and asked, "Ach, the situation is quite clear now. On one hand, there's the Light Green Gemstone Dragon—just by removing this Mind Fruit Tree, it could save the Light Green Gemstone Dragon; on the other hand, there are the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruits—if we let the Mind Fruit Tree consume the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, it would bear four Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruits."

He paused, then asked, “What do you think I should choose?”

“Brother, Ach thinks we should let the Light Green Gemstone Dragon be consumed to cultivate the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruits.”

“Hmm?” Liszt was surprised, as it seemed Ach’s decision was a bit too decisive.

Yet Ach said earnestly, “The Light Green Gemstone Dragon bears the Mind Branding of the First Dragon Knight, and even if its injuries heal, it’s not certain you could ride it, brother. Moreover, the Eagle Kingdom would not simply let its dragon be lost to the outside world; imprisoning it would come with great risk. The most profitable trade would be to exchange it for four Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruits—then you could ride four more dragons in the future!”

It made a lot of sense.

Liszt didn’t know how to refute at that moment.

He wanted a dragon, and he wanted one now, especially with the dragon right before him, arousing his desire even more. But as Ach had said, it’s not as if the Light Green Gemstone Dragon would willingly become his just because he wanted it. Mind Branding is hard to erase unless he was willing to pay the price of a Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit.

Clearly, that was not an option; saving a four-hundred-year-old critically injured dragon and then losing out on a future dragon was not worth it.

But to give up on it was also a difficult decision to make.

After all, the dragon was right before him, the very creature countless knights went mad over, tantalizingly within reach—even though he already had Leo, he still couldn’t make up his mind.

Ach spoke again, “Brother, the Light Green Gemstone Dragon looks like it won’t last much longer; you’d better make a decision quickly. If you give up the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, Ach would like to experiment on it before it dies, witnessing a dragon’s death will definitely enrich Ach’s understanding of the essence of magic power!”

He looked at the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, barely clinging to life.

He looked at the blooming Mind Fruit Tree.

Then he looked at Ach's expectant expression, and Liszt finally made his decision, "I give up the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, Ach, go ahead and experiment." He kept reassuring himself that it was for Ach's sake, for her experiments, that he was painfully forgoing a dragon—Ach was more important than a dragon!

"Hehe, Ach will start the experiment then!" Ach was very happy. She liked dragons, but after becoming an Archmage, she was more interested in studying them, "It's really such a big, beautiful dragon. Ach never thought that one day she would have a dragon as experimental material; it feels so fortunate!"

Liszt looked skyward.

He sighed softly at a 45-degree angle.

In the corner of his eye, he saw Leo circling Mind Island, full of wariness towards the Mind Fruit Tree, sensing instinctively the immense threat the tree posed to dragons.

Liszt suppressed the sorrow in his heart.

He went straight to the cliff's edge and waved Leo into his body to sleep, to prevent Leo from being unable to resist and destroying the Mind Fruit Tree—an Evil Dragon when confronted with something threatening its existence would not flee easily but would rather face it head-on to destroy it as the best response.

He called Leo back.

Then he returned and watched how Ach collected samples, manipulated her experimental apparatus, and provoked physiological responses from the Light Green Gemstone Dragon.

The more he watched, the more uncomfortable he felt.

So he sat down on the edge of a small pit, staring blankly at the four half-blossomed buds, falling into a daze—the dragon, a dragon, just giving up like that!

“No! ”

“I’m doing this for the future of an entire forest, giving up just one tree!”

Chapter 726: The Glorious Path

Mind Island, Light Green Gemstone Dragon, Mind Fruit Tree—all are subjects worthy of research.

Particularly, this newly grown Mind Fruit Tree, Liszt remembered very clearly that he had dug out every root of the previous Mind Fruit Tree and taken them away.

So, in theory, the Mind Fruit Tree should not be able to breed anew.

But it did breed anew.

“It seems that the origin of this island is extraordinary, and even the breeding of the Mind Fruit Tree has special conditions, rather than just simply rooting, sprouting, flowering, and bearing fruit in this inheritance,” he mused, looking at the Light Green Gemstone Dragon whose magic energy had been absorbed and whose breath had decayed to the point of being unable to condense.

Ach was conducting research.

She attempted to use a Magic Potion to sustain the life force of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, but the magic power transformed by the Magic Potion was too weak to maintain the loss of the dragon’s magic power.

She even planned to replace the Light Green Gemstone Dragon with her own power drawn from the Magic Web and accept the Mind Fruit Tree’s absorption.

Unfortunately, it seemed the magic power of the Magic Web was incompatible with the Mind Fruit Tree.

“Brother, the roots of the Mind Fruit Tree are quite strange; they don’t come directly from underground, and it hasn’t grown many roots at all. These roots are more like transmission channels in the Magic Web and do not exist in a material state, which shows that the Mind Fruit Tree has the nature of the Magic Web.”

“So it’s a mini Magic Web?”

“Somewhat similar, but its magic network aspect is rather special, focused and domineering, only absorbing and not dispersing outward,” Ach described with effort.

She didn’t have the Eye of Magic but had a very keen sense of perception; she fully sensed how the Mind Fruit Tree was devouring the Light Green Gemstone Dragon.

“Right, since the magic power of the Magic Web is incompatible with the Mind Fruit Tree, but the magic power from the Magic Potion is compatible, perhaps my Dragon Dou Qi can also be compatible?” Liszt suddenly thought. “If I use my Dragon Dou Qi to replace it, supplemented by the Magic Potion, perhaps I can save the Light Green Gemstone Dragon’s life?”

Although reason told him to choose the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, watching a dragon die was something he couldn’t do without emotion.

If there was a chance to rescue, he was still willing to make an attempt to save this Light Green Gemstone Dragon.

“There’s a possibility,” Ach pondered seriously.

“Then let’s try it. Leo and I are unified, when necessary it can transfer magic power to me, and my Dragon Dou Qi should be able to last quite some time.”

“So, brother, use your Dragon Dou Qi to transfer into the Light Green Gemstone Dragon’s body, and I will establish a channel between you and the Mind Fruit Tree for the transfer.”

“Alright!”

Despite many unanswered questions, the priority was to explore how to save the dragon.

He immediately activated the surging Dragon Dou Qi within his body and poured out all the Magic Potions from his Space Ring for both himself and the Light Green Gemstone Dragon to consume, in order to maintain the Mind Fruit Tree’s absorption.

“Oh-ho!”

Leo sensed that Liszt was continuously outputting Dou Qi and quickly opposed his method, but it was forcibly suppressed and had to yield to Liszt’s dominance—ever since their minds had merged, it realized that, as a domineering Evil Dragon, it was actually not as domineering as Liszt in many respects.

This human was a rash man who would recklessly use drugs!

“Oh... ho...”

It had no choice but to watch helplessly.

Meanwhile, Liszt single-handedly transmitted the Dragon Dou Qi into the Light Green Gemstone Dragon’s body; relying on the insight of the Eye of Magic, he rapidly channeled the Dou Qi to the magical channel established by Ach and then connected it with the Mind Fruit Tree’s colorful roots. Soon, the Dragon Dou Qi was naturally absorbed by the Mind Fruit Tree.

With his support as a Dragon Knight, the breath of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon finally stabilized.

Ach continued to provide the Light Green Gemstone Dragon with Magic Potions, injecting them into its body to help restore its internal magic power, keeping it alive.

They quickly achieved a dynamic balance.

“We’re good now, I can keep the transfer stable. Ach, continue your experiments; research the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, the Mind Fruit Tree, everything on this island that can be researched! This is a rare opportunity, perhaps you can use it to unravel the deep mysteries of the Magic Web.”

Li Si Te felt good about his condition, so there was no need for Ach to waste time saving dragons, and he would rather Ach decipher the secret.

Ach needed knowledge accumulation to grow stronger, and he was curious about everything on Mind Island.

Dragons nourish the Mind Fruit Tree.

The Mind Fruit Tree bears fruit, aiding the Mind Battle.

After a Mind Battle, one could ride many dragons and capture more dragons to nourish the Mind Fruit Tree, forming a perfect cycle that seemed to envelop him with countless dragons. By then, he would not just be a mere Dragon Knight, but a Dragon-rider Knight, a Dragon Shepherd.

If the cultivation of the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruits continued, and he set out with a great number of dragons to find others, perhaps there was a chance to unify the Legendary Continent and have thousands of dragons at his beck and call.

To establish the Master of Thousands Dragons Empire and be known as the Dragon Emperor, wouldn’t that be splendid!

“Blissful!”

“Blissful!”

“It’s just that the Mind Fruit Tree seems to flower a bit slowly,” Li Si Te had been indulging in the fantasy of being the Dragon Emperor, but the four buds still hadn’t fully bloomed.

Meanwhile, he realized that his Dragon Dou Qi was nearly depleted, and his reserves of Magic Potion were also running low.

Ach, who had been busy with his research, also recognized the gravity of the problem, “Brother, I’m afraid that the cultivation difficulty of the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit is much greater than imagined. Merely with Brother’s Dragon Dou Qi and the Light Green Gemstone Dragon’s Magic Power, it might not be possible to sustain the formation of four fruits.”

“What should we do, will it be enough if we add Leo’s Magic Power?”

“Oh.”

“It’s probably still not enough. We still don’t know the solidification rate of the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, but judging from the Magic Power brewing speed during flowering, the consumption of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon’s Magic Power, as well as Brother’s Magic Power transfer and Magic Potion reserves, it is likely we can only cultivate one fruit before exhausting all resources.”

“One fruit?” Li Si Te was at a loss for words.

Ach nodded, “That’s if we ensure the life of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon. If life preservation is not necessary, it might be possible to cultivate two fruits, maybe three if we’re lucky.”

“So you’re saying, no matter what, we have to give up on one?”

“Yes.”

“How do we give up one of them, just pluck the blossom?”

“Ach can sever the Magic Power transmission channel.”

“Then let’s cut off one first and re-evaluate carefully, to see if we need to give up the other blossoms.” Li Si Te made a decisive call – there was no room for hesitation.

He did not want to fail because of greed.

Ach quickly cast a spell and blocked the Magic Power channel of one of the blossoms, which then could no longer draw Magic Power, and its blooming was halted on the spot.

Seeing this, Li Si Te suddenly had an idea, “Ach, if we re-establish the Magic Power channel, can it start growing again?”

Ach’s eyes brightened, “It’s possible.”

“Then let’s give it a try!”

When the channel was re-established, just as Li Si Te had suspected, the blossom bloomed once more. His disappointment vanished in an instant, “Ach, sever the Magic Power channels of the other three blossoms. We’ll cultivate them one by one! First, let’s cultivate one fruit and then discuss the rest!”

He even thought of another way to cultivate the Mind Fruit Tree—by intermittently supplying Magic Power, thus, without harming the dragon’s life, cultivating more fruit over a longer period.

Thus, a splendid path to wealth spread before Li Si Te!

Chapter 727: Unable to Stay Still

After extracting a substantial amount of Magic Power from Leo as well, Liszt finally hastened the ripening of the first Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit under the afternoon sun, which shimmered with a rainbow luster.

More rounded than an apple, it had no scent, nor did its Magic Power dissipate.

Without the Eye of Magic to observe it, one would think it was just an apple-like fruit; even Ach, being an Archmage, could not sense its Magic Power. The ripened Bewildering

Dragon Mind Fruit had Magic Power circulating within, transitioning its color from rainbow to chaotic.

Neither black nor white, seemingly illusory yet real, akin to fog or haze.

“Rainbow is due to Magic Power exhibiting various properties, chaotic because the Magic Power has fused these properties during ripening, showing as non-attributed,” Liszt speculated that this was the result of the convergence in the movement of “Magic Particles,” based on previous research that Magic properties are indeed related to the movements of Magic Particles.

The fundamental unit of Magic is runes; the fundamental unit of runes is Magic Power; and the fundamental unit of Magic Power is minuscule Magic granules.

The motion and stillness of Magic granules is the main factor in the transformation of Magic into matter or matter into Magic. Accelerating the movement of Magic granules can be seen as the process of casting Magic. Magicians intervene in the movement of Magic granules through Spiritual Power to cast Magic.

Upon reaching the level of Archmage, one can further perceive that Magic granules also have subdivisions, and the smaller unit within these subdivisions is Magic Particles.

The different movements of Magic Particles confer various properties to Magic—this is the research finding Ach arrived at after meticulous study of the Magic Web.

Her own body had already undergone Elementalization meaning the smallest unit of Magic composing her body is a type of Magic Particle with Water Attribute.

However, the limitations of pure Water Magic are simply too many; for example, not being able to fly is a huge shortcoming.

Therefore, Ach had always wanted to interfere with the Magic Particles of her elemental body through in-depth research of the Magic Web, enabling her to cast Magic of other systems—this research was proceeding cautiously, and Liszt, after learning about it, urged her repeatedly and strongly to take her time, and not to be hasty.

A failure could destroy Ach herself, something Liszt could never bear to see.

Also because of Liszt's interference, Ach made little progress in her research on Magic Particles and was still unable to cast Magic of other systems.

Now, seeing the mature transformation of the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, Liszt suddenly thought, "If Ach studies the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, she might gain a deeper understanding of Magic Particles, effectively aiding her evolution from a Water Mage to an Archmage of all systems... I should give her a Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit for her research."

Thinking this, he decisively picked the Mind Fruit and handed it to Ach, "Take this for research; the rainbow Magic quickly turns into Chaotic Magic, the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit might contain information about Magic Particles."

"Brother, aren't you saving it for Dragon Riding?"

"No problem, I still have two more, and besides, the Mind Fruit Tree is still alive, I have the chance to cultivate new Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruits," Liszt replied with an easy smile, gesturing generously, "Be careful when you study it, try not to damage the integrity of the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit if possible, but it's okay if it gets damaged."

"Mhm, thank you, brother," Ach joyfully accepted the fruit, storing it in her Space Ring.

...

Looking at the three blossoms on the Mind Fruit Tree that had not yet fully bloomed, Liszt was in good spirits; given time, the Mind Fruit Tree would inevitably produce new fruits.

Perhaps after one harvest, another would grow, and even if the Mind Fruit Tree died, it likely wouldn't be long before a new Mind Fruit Tree appeared here.

"There must be a secret beneath this little pit; once the Mind Fruit Tree fulfills its purpose, I need to excavate this area thoroughly to see what's at the bottom!"

"Perhaps it's the remains of a dragon!"

“After all, the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit bears fruit by devouring dragons; the dragon’s remains would likely leave nothing but a few bones, but the blood shed at the time of death might have transformed into a mineral resource... Even if not, the blood shed by the Light Green Gemstone Dragon should have enriched Mind Island, turning into a Light Green Gemstone Mine!”

He glanced at Ach, who was tending to the Light Green Gemstone Dragon that was barely clinging to life.

“^

He called for the Smoke Mission softly.

“Mission: You have gained temporary ownership of a Light Green Gemstone Dragon, but its physical condition is poor, and its life hangs by a thread. You possess the right to decide its fate—either let the Light Green Gemstone Dragon be devoured by the Mind Fruit Tree, thus cultivating a new Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, or eradicate the Mind Fruit Tree to save the life of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon. Reward: A Light Green Gemstone Mine.”

“Hmm?”

“The mission isn’t complete?”

Liszt furrowed his brows, puzzled by the lack of any response from the mission. He read the content above again and tried to interpret it: “Does the mission hint that one must choose between eradicating the Mind Fruit Tree or having the Light Green Gemstone Dragon devoured? Can they not coexist?”

“It shouldn’t be like this, the Smoke Mission shouldn’t have compulsory options!”

He had come to believe deeply that the Smoke Mission was a special product of the fusion between the power of destiny of the Smoke Dragon and his own subconscious, driven by his own will. As an adult, his subconscious would definitely not entertain a binary choice; inclusivity was the superior approach.

“Or, is there something I’ve overlooked?”

“For instance, is the Light Green Gemstone Dragon beyond saving?”

Just as this thought emerged, Ach’s shout reached him: “Brother, the breath of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon has stabilized, its life has been saved.”

“Is that so, good job!” Liszt responded.

He then fell back into his previous line of thought: “Since the Light Green Gemstone Dragon has survived, does that mean there is something wrong with the Mind Fruit Tree? Will it wither away without the magic of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon?”

At this thought.

He was suddenly startled.

He quickly began observing the Mind Fruit Tree.

As expected, he noticed a grave phenomenon—the flowers of the Mind Fruit Tree were withering at a very slow pace, or rather, the entire tree was dissipating magic at a slow rate. Those severed multicolored magic roots were collapsing, without a supply of magic power the tree seemed unable to maintain its magic balance.

“Ach, come over quickly, there’s trouble with the Mind Fruit Tree!”

He called Ach over, and together they tried to stop the Mind Fruit Tree from withering, but whether as Dragon Knights or Archmages, without the ability to continue supplying Dragon Magic Power or Dragon Dou Qi, the decline of the Mind Fruit Tree was irreversible.

A few breaths later.

Liszt made a decisive statement: “It seems that the Mind Fruit Tree can’t survive in the wild, the only option is to kill the Light Green Gemstone Dragon to help it ripen a new Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, but a one-for-one trade isn’t very valuable... Ach,

according to your judgement, can the Light Green Gemstone Dragon ripen only one more fruit?”

“Yes, brother. If it were in its prime, it could definitely ripen three or more, but it has been severely injured. If not for your Dragon Dou Qi replenishment, it couldn’t even ripen two.”

“Then let’s not trade!” Liszt had a flash of inspiration, “Just dig it up and stuff it into the Space Ring!”

The Space Ring can halt everything!

Unless a soul enters it without special protection and consequently perishes, other entities, whether plants or substances like flame, come to an absolute halt upon entering. Realizing this, the two of them got to work, quickly dug up the Mind Fruit Tree, and then stuffed it into the Space Ring.

But after putting it in.

Liszt had not even breathed a sigh of relief when his expression changed: “Something is wrong, the Mind Fruit Tree is still losing magic power!”

Having used the Space Ring for several years, this was the first time such an incident had occurred—he had encountered an object that even the Space Ring could not stop!

Chapter 728: Strike While the Iron Is Hot

The Mind Fruit Tree stored within the Space Ring continued to lose its magic power, and nothing could stop the dissipation.

The current options were either to establish a new magic power channel for the Mind Fruit Tree and cultivate the last Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit with the aid of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, or to let it dissipate its magic power in vain, wasting the three unopened buds.

“Forget it!”

After a moment of indecision, Liszt decisively put aside his dilemma, retrieved the Mind Fruit Tree from the Space Ring, and handed it to Ach, “Take this for research; while it has not completely withered, carefully study the unique properties of the Mind Fruit Tree.”

“Mm!”

If the secret of the Mind Fruit Tree could be uncovered, it would naturally be the best outcome, far more valuable than killing a Light Green Gemstone Dragon now for one Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit.

Ach began to study the Mind Fruit Tree, while Liszt didn’t just stand by idly. He too used the Eye of Magic to continuously observe the magic power situation of the Mind Fruit Tree, providing real-time information to Ach. At the same time, he held a Bone Spade in hand as he continued to excavate the small pit from before.

The small pit had once given rise to a fruit tree that bore three Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruits.

Now another Mind Fruit Tree had grown; there had to be a secret to this land—Liszt did not cease his digging with the Bone Spade, and his Eye of Magic kept watch, nearly scrutinizing every shovelful of soil to ensure whether it contained some kind of “seed” that could stimulate the growth of the Mind Fruit Tree.

He no longer believed that the Mind Fruit Tree was merely some special plant.

Given its ability to nullify the gemstone of the Formless Dragon, it was clear how extraordinary the nature of the Mind Fruit Tree was. Even in his mind, he held some bold speculations—that the Mind Fruit Tree might be related to Sacred Dragons. Thus far, he had encountered two types of Sacred Dragons: the Formless Dragon’s Space Gem was wonderfully elusive, and the Smoke Dragon’s Power of Destiny was even more terrifying.

From the perspective of producing resources, Gemstone Dragons and Metal Dragons are undoubtedly very important.

However, looking at the unique nature of power, Elemental Dragons freely switching between their Magic Form and their fleshly bodies are undeniably more magical than Gemstone Dragons and Metal Dragons, and the wonder of Sacred Dragons needs no further mention.

In other words,

The power tier of Sacred Dragons is clearly above that of Elemental Dragons, and the power tier of Elemental Dragons is in turn above that of Metal Dragons and Gemstone Dragons.

“If the Mind Fruit Tree can render the Space Gem’s stasis effect ineffective, it shows that its power tier is at least on par with that of the Formless Dragon; it also feeds on dragons as nourishment to produce fruits that can bind the power of dragon’s hearts... It’s evident that the Mind Fruit Tree is definitely related to dragons.”

His thoughts continued to diverge.

Legend says the Elf King can transform into a forest where dragons reside—could the Mind Fruit Tree be related to the Elf King?

Or is it related to the dream powers of the Jade Dragon or the temporal powers of the Twilight Dragon? It probably has nothing to do with the life powers of the Immortal Dragon, or could it really just be a singularly magical plant?

The Bone Spade continued to dig, shovelful by shovelful.

The soil was now piled around the small pit, but Liszt found nothing related to seeds, nor anything magical. After digging about two meters deep, he reached the rocks beneath the soil—a rock island by its very nature.

As a Dragon Knight, Liszt had great strength, abundant stamina and worked at an incredibly efficient rate; within an hour, he had dug out a circular pit with a diameter of one meter.

The bottom of the pit was flat rock, the same as the cliffs surrounding the island.

“The rock hasn’t cracked; it’s a whole, and I can’t tell what kind of rock it is,” Liszt said. His geographical knowledge was limited and he could not deduce exactly how Mind Island had formed, but one thing was clear to him: this was not a volcanic island and had nothing to do with volcanic eruptions.

“So, the question arises.”

“Beneath is a layer of rock; it’s impossible for a ‘seed’ to be hidden there. So how exactly did the Mind Fruit Tree grow? I was quite sure that I had dug out all the roots of the dead Mind Fruit Tree. It’s highly unlikely that a piece of root was left behind to grow into a new Mind Fruit Tree.”

He was baffled by many things, but without finding any seeds, he could only assume that he had not done a thorough job last time and a piece of root had been left behind.

To prove this point was also easy: “I now have two Mind Fruit Trees, with plenty of roots. Does this mean that I can keep artificially cultivating Mind Fruit Trees?” He filled a pot with soil, buried a piece of the dead root in it, and placed it inside the Space Ring.

Then he broke apart the rock to confirm that there was still rock beneath, and refilled the spot with the surrounding soil.

If his conjecture was correct and the root was the seed, then sprinkling some dragon’s blood from the Light Green Gemstone Dragon onto it would eventually lead to a new Mind Fruit Tree sprouting from the soil in the pot. If the root was not the seed but related to the environment, the refilled spot might give rise to a new Mind Fruit Tree.

In summary.

For a considerable period into the future, Mind Island would remain a key object of study.

...

His gaze shifted from the large pit back to the Mind Fruit Tree. The magic-depleted tree was wilting at a rate visible to the naked eye. Ach meticulously cut many small segments to experiment with in diverse ways.

Liszt couldn't get involved at all.

So he turned his attention to the still comatose Light Green Gemstone Dragon, skin and bones, with wounds that stubbornly refused to heal, exhibiting only faint breathing. But its magic power was stabilizing, weak though it was, slowly recovering.

After all, he had fed it a fair amount of Magic Potions.

"I have no idea when the Light Green Gemstone Dragon will wake up, nor how long it will take to recover from its injuries. A dragon's High Magic recovers quickly, but this time, I'm afraid its Superior Magic has been shaken, and that won't be easy to restore... Leo managed to grow so big only with the help of volcanic Superior Magic and the lingering Superior Magic from the former Fire Dragon."

Superior Magic is Dragon's Intent. It's the extreme nature magical power that allows Leo to switch between his Magic Form and his flesh and blood body, originating from the magic left by the Former Fire Dragon.

High Magic is magic that a dragon emits casually, and it's on the same level as the Magic Web's magic.

High Magic is easy to replenish; a bit of medicine, some meat to help, and it can quickly be restored. However, Superior Magic needs to be slowly refined and condensed. For the Light Green Gemstone Dragon to regain its former strength, it might take more than just a year or two.

"However, this is also an opportune moment. While its powers are diminished, it's my chance to find a way to subdue it!" Liszt stroked the Light Green Gemstone Dragon's neck where there was still a touch of warmth in its scales, and a smile spread across his lips, "The process might be complicated, but in the end, this dragon will be captured by me!"

Narrowing his eyes at the exposed Dragon Tooth Platform: "I definitely can't afford to use the Bewildering Dragon Mind Fruit, but the brand of the First Dragon Knight has to be dealt with."

His mind raced with whether he should just mount it now and, while the Light Green Gemstone Dragon was unconscious and its mental power weakened, engage it in a fierce Mind Battle.

If he could erase the Mind Branding, wouldn't the Light Green Gemstone Dragon be completely subjugated?

Licking his lips, he felt his heartbeat accelerate, and after three seconds, he had decided to do just that!

Chapter 729: The First Dragon Knight

The location of Dragon Tooth Platform was quite wondrous.

It sat at the juncture where the dragon's neck met its torso, right at the center of the shoulder blades of its wings. When the dragon flapped its wings to fly, the Dragon Tooth Platform was perfectly sheltered by the wings. This ensured the knight's safety; only when their back was exposed would the knight be vulnerable.

The gap left between the wings and the neck was the Dragon Knight's area for attack.

The length of the Dragon Lance didn't need to be longer than the dragon's body, as the Dragon Dou Qi could be projected outward. The lance only needed to ensure it could reach through the gaps created by the vibrating wings, aiming in all directions. Real close-quarter killing required the dragon to cooperate by rolling over so the knight could attack back to back.

At other times, the dragon would act as the main force in close combat, and the knight would focus on outputting Dou Qi.

Therefore, the dragon was the knight's perfect mount, and the Dragon Knight was the best example of unity between rider and steed. The dragon's strength, combined with the human's intelligence, made the Dragon Knight the pinnacle force ruling the world.

The fallen Light Green Gemstone Dragon had lost the ability to protect its own Dragon Tooth Platform.

Liszt didn't know whether any Dragon Knights had successfully mounted dragons in this manner, but with the opportunity before him, he was not about to miss it.

“Good, the Light Green Gemstone Dragon fell without any guard, leaving the Dragon Tooth Platform fully exposed and in a perfect position for riding.” With a leap, he jumped onto the neck of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, then walked a few steps to reach the Dragon Tooth Platform, planting his feet firmly in the hollows of the bone.

He then sat down on it.

In an instant, his mind wavered, feeling his inner Dou Qi begin to surge, as if wanting to merge seamlessly with the Magic Power of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon. But after several surges, the connection broke at critical moments, as if the Magic Power of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon was incapable of making the connection, unable to support the Mind Battle.

This was entirely different from Liszt's first time riding Leo.

Back then, when he first mounted Leo's Dragon Tooth Platform, the connection between Dou Qi and Magic Power was made instantly, followed by his mind rushing into Leo's, initiating the Mind Battle.

“Is the Light Green Gemstone Dragon too weak, or is it resisting my Dragon Riding?” With this thought, Liszt decided to take the offensive, frantically circulating his Dou Qi, following the trajectory used when riding Leo, forcefully capturing the Magic Power of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon to complete the connection.

The approach was somewhat brutal, but it soon proved effective.

When the Magic Power connected with the Dou Qi, capitalizing on the unique properties of Dou Qi and Magic Power, Liszt quickly felt an added pressure on top of him, as if he were trying to open his eyes while lying in a difficult state on a sickbed. The heaviness of his eyelids almost completely shut out his senses several times, urging him to fall into a deep sleep.

Having experienced one Mind Battle before, Liszt endured this sensation, opening his eyes. In the next moment, the scenery before him changed.

This was a world emanating a rich aroma of liquor.

He was standing on a huge bone from an unknown animal, surrounded by countless other bones—all soaked in water that reeked of alcohol. Undoubtedly, it was liquor.

In the depths among the bones, there was a giant Light Green Gem, which was shattered, with each crack seeping out liquor.

Above the gemstone, a Light Green Gemstone Dragon lay asleep.

“So this is the Light Green Gemstone Dragon’s spiritual incarnation? If I defeat it, can I win the Mind Battle?” Liszt tried to take a few steps forward, puzzled as to why the Light Green Gemstone Dragon’s inner world was such a mess, akin to a drunkard’s fantasy world.

Could it be that the Light Green Gemstone Dragon was actually a drunkard dragon?

And these bones, what did they mean? Did they represent its fondness for gnawing on bones?

But these were secondary concerns. The most important task at hand was to kill the slumbering Light Green Gemstone Dragon, just as he had slain the evil dragon bound by Rainbow Iron Chains in Leo’s mind world.

“Come forth, my great sword!”

With a gentle call, the smoke coiling around him, imbued with the power of the Smoke Dragon, instantly transformed into a Fire Attribute Ice Soul Dragon-Slaying Sword—he was actually somewhat curious whether this sword was a projection of his mind, a manifestation of the Power of Destiny, or if the two were inherently one and the same.

Perhaps the Power of Destiny had long since merged with his mind, inseparable from one another.

He leaped forward.

Jumping onto the fractured, gigantic Light Green Gem, he observed the sleeping Light Green Gemstone Dragon up close. The dragon showed no reaction. It seemed that, as in the real world where it was gravely injured and comatose, its mind world was similarly wounded and unconscious. Especially since its body was covered in cracks, as if it might shatter at any moment.

“This isn’t even a challenge.” Liszt smiled lightly, raising his fiery red great sword, ready to completely annihilate the mind avatar of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon.

But just then, there was a sudden flash before his eyes.

A fully armored knight appeared abruptly in front of him, and with a five-meter long Dragon Lance, he parried Liszt’s fiery red great sword.

Then he charged swiftly towards him, attempting to run Liszt through with his spear.

“What is this?”

Liszt’s reaction was nothing if not quick. He dodged and leapt aside, continuously evaluating the knight that had suddenly appeared. Just one look was all it took for him to seemingly understand the knight’s identity—Abraham Moonlight Silver, a member of the Royal Family of Dragon Knights from the Eagle Kingdom over three hundred years ago.

He was also the First Dragon Knight of the Light Green Gemstone Dragon, the one who left the Mind Branding.

“So you are the Mind Branding of the Dragon Knight. Does that mean that defeating you is the key to winning the Mind Battle?” Liszt wondered whether other Dragon Knights had to make an agreement with their Mind Branding or if they too had to kill the mind avatar of the Dragon Knight.

But he knew what he had to do was fight.

A longer reach gives a greater advantage!

The Mind Branding of Abraham Moonlight Silver was merely a projection of will, but it possessed all the combat experience of a Dragon Knight. It was unknown how powerful he had been in life, but any Dragon Knight capable of leaving a Mind Branding was certainly a Completion-term Dragon Knight and would not be weak.

After several bouts of fierce combat.

Liszt found that he couldn't gain even the slightest upper hand and was utterly suppressed by the other's relentless Dragon Lance.

However, he soon discovered something advantageous. Abraham Moonlight Silver, with his Dragon Lance in hand, did not fight smoothly. The five-meter long Dragon Lance was cumbersome to turn and swing, let alone perform intricate Dou Qi moves. It was mostly relying on the fact that Liszt was somewhat unaccustomed to this environment to forcefully dominate.

"He is the Mind Branding of a Dragon Knight, wielding a Dragon Lance instead of a great sword. Perhaps... he should be riding the Light Green Gemstone Dragon?"

The First Dragon Knight could ride dragons. Heirs to the Dragon Knight needed to confront the Dragon Riding Mind Branding of a Dragon Knight, and naturally, they couldn't erase the Mind Branding.

But now, the Dragon Knight's Mind Branding had no dragon!

With a grin, Liszt had already discovered the secret of the Dragon Knight's Mind Branding, and it was time to kill Abraham Moonlight Silver!

Chapter 730: Dragon Tooth Divine Weapon

Li Si Te had already planned how to eradicate Abraham Moonlight Silver's Mind Branding.

Taking advantage of the moment when the other party was occupied with the Dragon Lance stuck in his bone, he glanced at the smoke that still lingered around his body. His mind churned, and he murmured, "This isn't a Dragon Fight, but a sword battle without dragons, the best opportunity to wipe out the Mind Branding!"

As his gaze flickered, his will began to direct the smoke belonging to the Power of Destiny, "Then, I need an indomitable Dragon Tooth Divine Weapon!"

Boom!

The smoke surged towards the big sword, and the fiery-red big sword suddenly deformed into a rough, triangular-shaped greatsword, its Fire Attribute Dou Qi becoming even denser.

Li Si Te didn't know what a Dragon Tooth Divine Weapon should look like, as he had never seen one before.

But he had seen how sharp Leo's teeth were and could imagine what a divine weapon forged from a dragon's teeth would look like.

Thus, the fiery-red Dragon Tooth Divine Weapon was born.

Feeling the immense power of the Dragon Tooth Divine Weapon in his hand, his lips once again curled into an elegant smile, looking towards Abraham Moonlight Silver, who was attacking anew with his lance, "You are but a Dragon Knight without a dragon, while I, even without Leo's assistance, possess an even greater strength!"

Brandish the sword.

Swing the sword.

Slash!

With a squelch!

The Dragon Lance in Abraham Moonlight Silver's hands was directly chopped at the tip by the fiery-red Dragon Tooth Divine Weapon. Then Li Si Te swung his sword repeatedly, slicing the Dragon Lance into countless pieces, and finally struck fiercely towards Abraham, with a blade of flame splitting him in two.

Under the enhancement of the Power of Destiny, the imagined Dragon Tooth Divine Weapon was invincible, and the First Dragon Knight's Mind Branding was simply insignificant.

Past the gory, split corpse.

Li Si Te, holding the flaming Dragon Tooth Divine Weapon and ready to slaughter the unconscious Light Green Sapphire Dragon, suddenly saw the bisected Dragon Knight's corpse on the ground dissolve rapidly. Before him, Abraham Moonlight Silver again appeared, wielding a five-meter-long Dragon Lance, silently stabbing at him.

"Hmm?"

Li Si Te was surprised but showed no panic; this was the world of the mind, where anything could happen. Dodging the opponent's ferocious attack, he found an opportunity to counter and, with several clangs of his sword, sliced Abraham along with the Dragon Lance to pieces with ease.

Looking at the corpse at his feet.

Then at the previous place where the corpse had been, now empty.

His mind raced, "Can Mind Branding resurrect infinitely in the world of the mind?" It seemed to confirm his speculation; the corpse in front of him quickly vanished, and Abraham Moonlight Silver reappeared before him once again.

Without a word of nonsense.

Thrust his lance!

Confronted with what seemed like an endlessly resurrecting Mind Branding, Li Si Te remained composed, muttering to himself, “I don’t believe it!”

Slash after slash!

The corpses shattered into several pieces, falling to the ground and quickly disappearing, with a new Dragon Knight standing before him.

But no matter how many times Abraham Moonlight Silver’s Mind Branding resurrected, Li Si Te had only one choice—to continue swinging his sword and shattering the foe!

After several attempts, Abraham’s figure gradually began to fade.

Li Si Te also knew his choice was correct, “If I can’t kill with one slash, then I’ll slash several more times. I’ve eradicated even the incarnation of an Evil Dragon’s mind, let alone the Mind Branding of a Dragon Knight who has lost his dragon!”

Slash after slash!

After being slain twenty times in a row, the figure of Abraham Moonlight Silver finally became so faint that it was almost impossible to solidify. Li Si Te didn’t hold back at all; although he felt mentally exhausted, he still chose to go forward the twenty-first time and slay Abraham.

Boom!

The dim figure shattered, leaving no corpse behind, and after he waited a long time, Abraham Moonlight Silver did not condense again.

“Huff.”

Understanding that the Mind Branding had been completely erased.

Liszt calmed his emotions and directly leaped onto the body of the Light Green Sapphire Dragon, treading on its scales and walking towards the dragon's head.

There were no more Mind Brandings coming forth to stop him.

He lifted the dragon tooth divine weapon, now covered with cracks, and did not hesitate to slash down, "Puchi," half of the dragon's head was cut open. The slumbering Light Green Sapphire Dragon, as if sensing the pain, began to twitch all over, the Green Gemstone beneath its feet started to crack, and the surrounding wine churned as skeletons kept sinking.

The world of the mind seemed to be collapsing.

But Liszt was unshaken and continued to lift his sword and hack, forcibly chopping off the massive dragon's head.

Boom!

The Light Green Gem underneath completely shattered, and the Light Green Sapphire Dragon fragmented along with it, causing Liszt to lose his footing and fall. But soon he was standing on solid ground again. As the shattered Light Green Gems and the dragon's body disappeared around him, the entire spiritual world transformed into a new form.

A pure, flawless Light Green Gemstone was now tranquilly floating in the sea of wine filled with bones.

On the gemstone appeared another slumbering Light Green Sapphire Dragon, with the Dragon Tooth Platform exposed as if beckoning to him. As if guided by some invisible power, Liszt walked straight over, mounted the Dragon Tooth Platform within the spiritual world once again, and in an instant, the hearts of man and dragon fused together.

...

Moonlight, Green Shadow, Thunder, Spiral, Rock Shatter, Forest, Phantom.

Seven powerful Dragon Knight attack techniques blinked continuously in his mind, unstoppable and fierce.

At some point, Liszt had left the spiritual world of the Light Green Sapphire Dragon, and as he looked at the unconscious dragon, feeling the fantastic mental connection formed between dragon and rider, he also savored the gains from riding the dragon—the Dragon Dou Qi Manual!

A Dragon Knight's inheritance allowed one to receive the Dragon Dou Qi Manual transmitted by the dragon during the act of Dragon Riding.

After annihilating the Mind Branding of the First Dragon Knight, Liszt likewise received the Dragon Dou Qi Manual passed down by the dragon, which was exclusive to the Light Green Sapphire Dragon. Perfected over generations of Dragon Knights, there were a total of seven powerful techniques and many fundamental details.

True, it could only be combined with the Light Green Sapphire Dragon, but many of the ways of Dou Qi circulation could be referenced interchangeably.

“Now that I have the Sapphire Dragon Knight's Dou Qi Manual, and have gained the Light Green Sapphire Dragon Knight's Dou Qi Manual, creating the Fire Dragon Knight's Dou Qi Manual would be a breeze!”

Once he was certain that the Dragon Dou Qi Manual had been imprinted in his mind, Liszt exhaled a turbid breath, suppressing waves of spiritual fatigue, and stepped down from the Dragon Tooth Platform—now that the Light Green Sapphire Dragon belonged to him, he could ride it through the skies and show off his power once it recovered.

This was an adult dragon after all; a few practice rides and he'd be a Completion-term Dragon Knight!

But then.

A roar of anger suddenly came from Leo in his mind: “Oh hoo!”

It was questioning Liszt's act of betrayal, expressing severe anger that Liszt dared to ride another dragon; without an explanation, Leo would undoubtedly rampage.

Liszt already had his response ready: “Leo, rest assured, I only plan to use it as a dragon resource, my true combat partner is only you!” Although Leo had not yet grown to full strength, the future of an Elemental Dragon was destined to be the strongest Dragon Knight, and moreover, he was Liszt’s first dragon.

Whether emotionally or logically, Leo was his ultimate partner.

“Oh hoo!”

“I’ll add ten more Magic Potions!”

“Oh hoo!”

“Another ten!”

“Oh hoo!”

“Thirty roasted bulls!”

“Oh hoo!”

“Don’t overreach; if you’re not satisfied, you’ll get nothing at all!”

“Oh hoo...” Leo relented, content with the vast supplies it had managed to extort from the frugal Liszt. As for the Light Green Sapphire Dragon, Leo showed complete indifference—it could crush it once, it could crush it again, and it would not be able to stir any troubles!